WARNING

Running a tractor engine inside a barn or farm shop can be DEADLY.

On an early spring evening, a 51-year-old man was trying to fix his tractor inside his pole barn with the doors closed and the engine running. His wife came to look for him and discovered he had passed out from the build-up of carbon monoxide. He was declared dead on scene.

A 45-year-old man was working on his tractor in his pole barn when he hit his head and was knocked unconscious. His tractor's engine was running. He was found dead a short time later - cause of death: Carbon monoxide poisoning.

Carbon monoxide can't be seen or smelled, but it can kill. Don't let this happen to you.

Carbon monoxide is produced from burning fuel. In an enclosed space, like a barn or farm shop, the build up of carbon monoxide can quickly become deadly.

It is often cold in Michigan, and it is necessary to work indoors on machinery to prepare for the coming season, but remember if you do have to work indoors:

VENT EXHAUST OUTDOORS

Special exhaust hoses can be purchased at some auto parts stores or online. Use these to vent the exhaust from a running engine to the outdoors.

LIMIT YOUR TIME

Only run an engine for a short time indoors and be sure to air out your workspace as often as possible.

BE ALERT

The signs of carbon monoxide poisoning are often headaches, nausea or dizziness. If you experience any of these, get outside to fresh air and call 911 or go to the nearest emergency room.



For more information about carbon monoxide visit: www.michigan.gov/carbonmonoxide
Or contact the Michigan Department of Community Health at (517) 335-8350 or (800) 648-6942.

